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Apostle Islands National Lakeshore News Release

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Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Joins National Find Your Park Movement

National Park Week 2015 Encourages Everyone To Find Your Park

BAYFIELD – Apostle Islands National Lakeshore joins parks, programs and partners across the country to encourage everyone to find their park and share their stories online at FindYourPark.com. Launched yesterday by the [National Park Service](http://NationalParkService.gov) and the [National Park Foundation](http://NationalParkFoundation.org), [Find Your Park](http://FindYourPark.com) is a public awareness and education campaign celebrating the milestone centennial anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016 and setting the stage for its second century of service.

Find Your Park invites the public to see that a national park can be more than a place -- it can be a feeling, a state of mind, or a sense of American pride. Beyond vast landscapes, the campaign highlights historical, urban, and cultural parks, as well as the National Park Service programs that protect, preserve and share nature, culture, and history in communities nationwide.

“Find Your Park” is also be the theme for this year’s [National Park Week](http://NationalParkWeek.gov), April 18 – 26. Apostle Islands National Lakeshore is engaging youth by working with local teachers to help students learn about cultural traditions and science.

Visitors to Apostle Islands National Lakeshore headquarters in Bayfield and Little Sand Bay might wonder about the blue bags hanging from the trees outside the building. Teacher Rick Erickson and the Alternative Education students at the Bayfield School tapped 23 sugar maple trees outside the park headquarters building in March. Students from the high school and middle school are making

- More -

regular visits to the trees in March and April to collect the sap that is then processed into maple syrup at the school's new evaporator. The high school students are also conducting research that includes measuring the sugar content of the sap and recording the amount of sap yielded from each tree. Similar numbers of taps were placed in each of the four cardinal directions on the trees, and students are studying which side of the trees seems to be the most productive to tap. Students are coming to park headquarters to explain the project to park staff and report their findings on Tuesday April 7. At Little Sand Bay, the Red Cliff Early Childhood program has 3-5 year olds (approx. 68) tapping, collecting, and boiling maple sap into syrup. In addition to hand-on experience in learning the tradition of a Sugar Bush, the youth are also obtaining skills in tree identification and science. Little Sand Bay is both within Apostle Islands National Lakeshore and the reservation boundaries of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Visit www.NationalParkWeek.org to learn more about how you can join parks, programs, and partners in celebrating National Park Week across the country.

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About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 407 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.